

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 NIC-01 AID-05 EB-04 DRC-01 /064 W

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R 181700Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2074

INFO PAN CANAL

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 6048

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PN, PQ, PFOR

SUBJ: PRIVATE GROUP HOLDS SEMINAR ON CANAL ISSUE

REFS: PANAMA 1545; BLACKEN/VACCARO MEMCON OF 4/22/74

SUMMARY: FOREIGN MINISTER TACK IS SCHEDULED TO OPEN OCTOBER 18 A THREE DAY SEMINAR SPONSORED BY NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE (CONEP) DEALING WITH VARIOUS ASPECTS OF CANAL ISSUE. BOTH PRO-AND ANTI-GOP EXPERTS WILL GIVE HISTORICAL VIEW OF CANAL ISSUE WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON PRESENT NEGOTIATIONS AND FUTURE PROSPECTS. THIS IS PART OF CONEP'S EFFORT TO ASSIST GOP IN PUBLICIZING CANAL ISSUE AT HOME AND ABROAD.

1. SIX LECTURES WILL BE GIVEN ON THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND LEADING UP TO PANAMA'S PRESENT SITUATION REGARDING THE CANAL. A SEVENTH LECTURE CONCERNING THE EIGHT POINTS WHICH WERE AGREED UPON BY SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER AND FOREIGN MINISTER TACK WILL BE PRESENTED BY FOREIGN POLICY ADVISER JORGE ILLUECA. THE LAST SERIES OF THREE LECTURES CONCERN GENERAL THEME OF "WHAT THE PANAMANIAN NATION OUGHT TO EXPECT CONCERNING THE CANAL NEGOTIATIONS." IT WILL CONSIST OF THREE PARTS: "IN CONFORMITY WITH THE REVISIONIST THESIS" BY MIGUEL MORENO, "IN CONFORMITY WITH THE SUBSTITUTION THESIS" BY MARIO GALINDO, AND "IN CONFORMITY WITH THE
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THESIS OF PURE NATIONALISM" BY CARLOS BOLIVAR PEDRESCHI.

THE LECTURERS PRESENTING THE HISTORICAL MATERIAL ARE FORMER NEGOTIATORS DIOGENES DE LA ROSA, AND CARLOS LOPEZ GUEVARA, AND ROGELIO ALFARO, CARLOS IVAN ZUNIGA, JOSE F. CARDONA MAS AND JULIO E. LINARES. MESSRS. MORENO, PEDRESCHI, ZUNIGA, GALINDO AND LINARES ARE THE FIVE LAWYERS WHO EARLIER THIS YEAR PREPARED A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE KISSINGER-TACK AGREEMENT. AFTER DISCUSSION OF SPECIFIC ISSUES, A GENERAL DISCUSSION ABOUT SOVEREIGNTY, TREATY RIGHTS, AND PRESENT ECONOMIC PROBLEMS CONCERNING THE CANAL WILL BE HELD. HIGH GOP OFFICIALS AND PANAMANIAN AMBASSADORS ACCREDITED ABROAD HAVE BEEN INVITED TO ATTEND.

2. SEMINAR SERIES IS PART OF CONEP'S EFFORT TO COOPERATE WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY IN PUBLICIZING ABROAD PANAMA'S POSITION(SEE PANAMA 1545 AND BLACKEN/VACCARO MEMCON OF 4/22/74). PAPERS PRESENTED AT SEMINAR REPORTEDLY WILL BE PUBLISHED. SAMUEL R. LEVY, PRESIDENT OF CONEP'S INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITORY COMMISSION (COMISION DE DIVULGACION INTERNACIONAL - CDI) HAS ORGANIZED THE PROGRAM. IN PRESS CONFERENCE OCTOBER 16, LEVY SAID CDI HAD PROVIDED MATERIAL IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH FOR PANAMANIAN SPOKESMEN AT GENEVA ILO MEETING IN JUNE AND MORE RECENTLY AT CONGRESS OF INTER-AMERICAN FEDERATION ON PUBLIC RELATIONS IN LOS ANGELES. IN NOVEMBER ECONOMIST AND FORMER TREATY NEGOTIATOR GUILLERMO CHAPMAN WILL PRESENT THE PANAMANIAN POSITION IN RIO DE JANEIRO AT MEETING OF YOUNG PRESIDENTS ORGANIZATION, A YOUNG EXECUTIVES GROUP WITH A LARGE US MEMBERSHIP. LEVY SAID THAT DURING TRIPS TO US, CONEP REPRESENTATIVES WILL SPEAK ON CANAL ISSUE BEFORE BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND UNIVERSITY GROUPS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRIVATE ENTERPRISE, INTERNATIONAL CANALS, SEMINARS, SPEECHES, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PANAMA06048
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740298-0013
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741035/aaaabdxz.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: PANAMA 1545; BLACKEN/VACCARO MEMCON, OF 4/22/74
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUN 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <19 MAR 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRIVATE GROUP HOLDS SEMINAR ON CANAL ISSUE
TAGS: PFOR, PN, PQ, CONEP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005